Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment claims 1-6, 8 and 13 will be pending, of which claims 1 and 8 are independent. An abstract has been submitted on a separate sheet as requested.

The claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The applicants assert that these rejections have been fully addressed by the above amendments and cancellations. Accordingly, the claims are in full compliance with §112, and the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 has been rendered moot by the cancellations of claims 10-12.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: Christopher M. Beck

Registration No. 52,603

Paul L. Sharer

Registration No. 36,004

PLS/CMB 1600 Tysons Boulevard McLean, Virginia 22102 (703) 905-2000 Telephone (703) 905-2500 Facsimile Attorney Reference: 009901/0284115